



CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN '99: S.F. VOTERS WILL BE ASKED TO BAN ATM SURTAX FEES ON NOVEMBER BALLOT.

Editor's note: Faxes, email, cell phones and ready cash with an ATM card - all things we take for granted today. But there's a cost for these items. One of them is a surtax by banks on ATM transactions. In San Francisco, County Sup. Tom Ammiano and coalition of consumer and labor groups want to stop the *extra fee* on ATM transactions. Here's our update & analysis...

...The coalition began a local initiative petition drive back in April when the Bd. of Supes and Mayor Willie Brown failed to approve a law (authored by Ammiano) to ban ATM surcharge fees in S.F. The coalition, now known as *The Campaign To End Extra ATM Fees* (or simply YES on Prop. F) turned in more than 17,000 signatures back on July 5th. 10,500 were needed to qualify. In addition to Ammiano, others in the fight against the banking industry include the AFL-CIO Western Region, Consumers Union, Consumer Fed. of Calif., United Steelworkers, AARP and CalPirg. But there is no professional campaign team at this time. Jon Golinger is the coalition's spokesperson at (415)292-1639...

...Anyone who uses an ATM machine is charged a small fee by their own bank. But if you use an ATM which belongs to a rival bank, there's an additional surtax or fee. The extra fee is around \$1.50. That's what this initiative would ban. What are the odds that F will be approved? A January survey by pollster David Binder showed **78%** would support such a initiative. So far Prop. F is not an issue in the upcoming mayor's race, but YES on F will push for the candidates to state their positions...

...The NO on F side - known as the *Coalition for ATM Choice* - has a difficult task of turning this around, but questions whether this initiative is even legal in light of

the Iowa case, where the Federal Comptroller said that Iowa didn't have the authority to regulate ATM fees. It's more complex, but you get the picture. There's another case in Connecticut which will soon be before the State Supreme Court...

...Opposition sources admit that the extra fees are an "irritant," but suggest that the ban could hurt tourism (small, out of town bank customers wouldn't have an ATM machine they could use). NO on F sources also suggest that most customers don't mind the extra fee because of the *convenience factor*. Lots of other cities are watching this initiative to see what happens. NO on F has hired Goddard Claussen to handle tv/media, while S.F.-based Robert Barnes & Assoc. will handle just about everything else. Stay tuned...

FULL METAL JACKET: GUNS & POLITICS IN CALIF.

Editor's note: Ever since the Aug. 10th shooting at the North Valley Jewish Community Center by neo-Nazi Buford Furrow, guns and gun control has dominated the headlines and airwaves. In L.A., Police Chief Bernard Parks has been joined by L.A. Co. Sheriff Lee Baca and L.A. Co. DA Gil Garcetti in calling for an outright ban on *assault weapons*. Ditto with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D). And L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky wants to stop gun shows from using the L.A. Co. fairgrounds in Pomona. A very hot topic. Meanwhile, the battle for more gun control continues in Sacramento with SB 15 by State Sen. Richard Polanco (D-L.A.) at the center of more controversy. Here's our update & analysis...

...The groups who favor more gun control have put out the word that SB 15 is in *trouble* and are yelling for help. The problem is that SB 15, which years ago started out as a bill to ban cheap handguns (aka The Saturday Night Special), has turned into a bill to test all handguns, and any gun which either isn't tested or

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fails the safety test, goes on the unsafe handgun list...

...Why is SB 15 in trouble? Because a number of Demo legislators in swing districts are being pressured to vote against the measure by line cops (read that as POAs and DSAs – with PORAC leading the charge against SB 15). For years, Demos have been allied with line cop groups because they supported labor-oriented legislation dealing with police. In return, line cop groups & PORAC have been very generous in supporting Demo lawmakers. FYI: line cops don't oppose handgun registration laws, but they are opposed to laws which ban handguns...

...Why are line cops opposed to SB 15? Until this past week, SB 15 would have placed both the Glock and Sig handguns on the unsafe list. Turns out that about 70% of all local departments issue these weapons to their officers. And there's nothing unsafe about these particular weapons. Bottomline: cities & counties would have had to spend a ton to buy new handguns for their officers had SB 15 not been amended...

...There are other problems too. Antique guns and single shot handguns aren't covered by the testing, thus they too could be declared "unsafe." Another problem is used handguns. Sources say 45% of all handguns sold are used or previously owned. If an older gun, which may be perfectly safe, shows up on the unsafe list, no dealer will touch it. The line cops are concerned because if licensed dealers won't buy used guns, then the "bad guys" might --- and here we're talking about a blackmarket situation. So SB 15 still has lots of problems that need fixing...

...FYI: SB 29 by State Senators Steve Peace, John Burton and Don Perata won approval 8/18 in the Assembly Appropriations Cmt. This bill is available to clean up SB 15 and any other gun bills which may need fixing. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Sept. 10	CA Legislature recesses
Sept. 21	42 nd CD special election.
Sept. 24-26	Calif. Republican Party's biannual convention at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel.
Oct. 3-6	Nat'l Congress of American Indians 56 th Annual Session, Palm Springs
Oct. 10	Last day for Governor to sign/veto bills.
Nov. 1	Declaration of Intent for State Legislature.
Nov. 15	Declaration of Candidacy/Nomination papers.

42nd CD UPDATE: GOP POLLING DATA LOOKS GOOD FOR BACA. CAMPAIGNS CONTINUE TO HIRE PROS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on the 42nd CD special election set for Sept. 21st with some polling data which shows how difficult this race will be for the eventual GOP candidate...

...The polling data was done prior to the close of filing, which means GOP businessman Rob Guzman was not a part of this survey. But Judge Linda Wilde and attorney Elia Pirozzi are included. In a head-to-head with State Sen. Joe Baca(D-San Bernardino), Pirozzi is crushed by 25-pts: **54% to 29%**. Wilde lost by 20-pts.: **53% to 33%**. However, both GOP candidates do much better against Marta Brown, Congressman George Brown's widow. In a race with Wilde, it's dead even: **40% each**. In a battle with Pirozzi, it's Brown **40% vs. 37%** for Pirozzi --- within the margin of error. FYI: Wilde did not file...

...In a head-to-head among the Demos, Baca gets 43%, Brown 17% and Fontana Mayor David Eshelman gets 6%. The rest were for others or were undecided. Demo sources say the poll was conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, a GOP polling firm...

...FYI: On Aug. 16th the San Bernardino Co. GOP Central Cmt. voted 31-0 to endorse Pirozzi. Normally the GOP doesn't make pre-primary endorsements. The endorsement just POed Guzman who said the GOP Cmt. was "out of touch with the people."...

...In campaign news, Baca has rounded out his campaign team by hiring Susan Burnside for field ops and LGD Insight Ltd. on polling. In the endorsement game, Baca has announced support from Demo U.S. Reps. Howard Berman, Xavier Becerra and Bob Matsui...Marta Brown added direct mail consultants SG&A Campaigns to her team...

...On the GOP side, Rob Guzman has hired consultant Robert Gouty for mail/media and has hired Dr. Alan Heslop of Claremont-based National Demo-graphics for polling. Pirozzi's team hired GOP fund-raisers Anne LeGassick Dunsmore & Joann Davis (Calif. Capital Campaigns). McNally Temple is Pirozzi's lead consultant. Stay tuned...

EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER, L.A. INSIDERS CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF LOCAL POLITICS.

Editor's note: The 2001 Los Angeles muni election is still two cycles away – and one would think that White House politics would be of more interest – but that's not the case. So here's an update on the race for L.A. Mayor, City Attorney and City Controller...

...In the battle to replace Richard Riordan, there are only 3 candidates who have formed committees and are actively raising money, but there are 4 others in the wings – still testing the waters before making the big jump...

...The 3 who have formed committees and are raising money are current City Atty. James Hahn; L.A. Councilman Joel Wachs; and City Commissioner Steve Soberoff - an ally to Riordan. Since money is the name of the game, all three have hired professional fundraisers to assist them: Hahn has retained his longtime fundraiser, Ms. Charley Dobbs; Wachs uses Brian Rix & Pat Bradford; while Soberoff has hired Alice Borden, the mayor's chief fundraiser. FYI: Hahn already has media guru/consultant Bill Carrick in place, but Soberoff and Wachs have yet to hire media consultants...

...Of the 4 who are still "scouting," sources haven't heard much from State Controller Kathleen Connell. While the Legislature was in summer recess, Demo Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa was all over L.A. and getting tons of airtime and ink. But not all of the coverage was positive. L.A. Times 8/18 headline: *Some Allies Urge Speaker Not to Run for Mayor*. As for U.S. Rep. Xavier Becerra(D-L.A.), he's still looking too...

...But the big mystery continues to be L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky. For the longest time – nothing, not a word. Then when all yelling started about the NFL and the possibility of adding more taxpayer money to sweeten the deal, Zev came alive. Ditto on the stuff about gun shows on county property...

...The *City Attorney* race is still very much of a one person affair, with Councilman Michael Feuer actively raising money and seeking endorsements. For the *ABF crowd* (Anyone But Feuer), there is at least one other candidate who is looking seriously: attorney Jonathan Shapiro, who is chief of staff to Lt. Gov. Cruz Busta-

mante. He's a former U.S. Attorney here in L.A. (working govt. fraud) and served for a time in DC with the DOJ. He teaches criminal procedures at USC. The other name which pops up for Jim Hahn's job is L.A. Dep. Mayor Rocky Delgadillo...

...The *City Controller* race is also a one person affair, with Councilwoman Laura Chick having the field to herself for the time being. L.A. Dep. Mayor Kelly Martin was looking, but decided not to run. There have been rumors that L.A. Dep. Mayor Noellia Rodriguez might be interested. Councilwoman Ruth Galanter was looking, but decided to pass. In the meantime, Chick has put her campaign staff together: consultants Rick Taylor and Steve Afriat, plus the fundraising team of Brian Rix & Pat Bradford. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Editor's note: Here's another update on key Legislative primaries for 2000...

☒ **42nd AD** – It's official: State Sen. Tom Hayden will run in this AD instead of the 41st AD. Hayden's official flip/flop came Aug. 16th in a letter asking for support and endorsements. The big question is how Hayden's move may impact those Demos already in the race, namely West Hollywood Councilmembers Paul Koretz & Steve Martin; attorney Amanda Susskind; political consultant Jill Barad; and Dr. Daniel Stone. Our sources say Martin will drop out, but the others will stay – for now...

☒ **5th SD** – With Demo Assemblyman Mike Machado sitting atop a \$1 million + war chest, GOPers are having a tough time recruiting a solid candidate to run for State Sen. Pat Johnston's seat. Johnston is *termed out*. The only name to regularly surface is that of former Assemblyman Larry Bowler(R). But his failed recall attempt against Machado has caused GOPers to think twice about supporting him. Some GOP types are urging Escalon farmer Rick Veldstra to switch from the 17th AD race (Mike Machado's AD). Sources say Veldstra is waiting to see what Johnson & Brulte will offer – "*Show me the money.*"...

☒ **43rd AD** – This is the open seat now represented by Assemblyman Scott Wildman(D-Burbank). Already testing the waters on the Demo side are entertainment attorney Paul Kerkorian and Dario Fromer, who is the

appointment secretary to Gov. Gray Davis. Now add a 3rd Demo to the list: Dr. John Hisserich, assoc. vp of health affairs at USC. He's loaned himself \$50,000 to kickoff of the campaign and has hired consultant Phil Giarrizzo...

CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Here's some info on two new initiatives which have been given the green light to collect signatures for the November 2000 ballot...

◆ **Parental Consent** – The official title of this constitutional amendment & statute is **Parental Notification Prior to Termination of Minor's Pregnancy**. The proponent is Julia Leyva and she calls her measure the Family Communication & Parental Responsibility Act. This measure is somewhat different from Calif.'s old parental consent law, which was tossed out by the Calif. Supreme Court. Here a minor girl can go directly to an MD, but the MD can't perform an abortion until the MD notifies the parent(s) or legal guardian. And there are remedies in this measure to take care of sexual abuse/incest by a parent or legal guardian. Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk are the legal team handling this measure. Leyva is going for the November 2000 ballot and has until Jan. 6, 2000 to turn in 670,816 signatures...

● **Limiting Judges Immunity** – The official title of this constitutional amendment is **Judges. Limiting Immunity**. The sponsors are Ronald Branson, Michael L. Pendleton, Ethel R. Barnes, Debra Greenfield, Wayne W. Miller and Gladys O. Miller. Contact ☎ is (818)386-5804. This measure eliminates a judge's immunity from civil liability for deliberate violations of the law, fraud, conspiracy, intentional violation of due process of law, etc. This measure would establish three 25 member special grand juries to look into allegations against members of the bench. Deadline is Jan. 6, 2000. Sponsors need 670,816 signatures...

◆ Just submitted to the AG's office for title & summary is a constitutional amendment to raise Calif.'s K-12 per pupil spending up to the national average. The two proponents, Scott Myers-Lipton, a professor at San Jose State Univ., and Amos White, a non-profit executive in Oakland, call their measure "The Calif. Competitive Education Act." How do you bring Calif. up to the national average? Lots of money --- money from other special interests. Stay tuned...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ **LVD 2000 Names Richter** – The Thomas/Costa initiative (aka Let The Voters Decide – LVD 2000) which would remove the Demo controlled legislature and Demo Gov. Gray Davis from the reapportionment process, has named former Assemblyman Bernie Richter(R) as a Statewide co-chair. This new post gives Richter a big leg up on his chief GOP rival, Assemblyman Rico Oller, in their heated primary for the 1st SD seat in March. FYI: LVD 2000 sources say they will turn in petitions beginning Aug. 23rd...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Lorraine Lyou has departed Rock The Vote and is now development director at the CA League of Conservation Voters...

● Political consultant Elizabeth Colton of S.F. has ended all client relationships to devote more time to her efforts for the proposed Internat'l Museum of Women. Need to reach Liz? (415)775-1366...

● The Sacto office of Edelman PR Worldwide has landed the CA Earthquake Authority(CEA) as a new client...

● CA Gov. Gray Davis(D) is the new vice chair of the Demo Governors Assn. for 2000. Kentucky Gov. Paul Patton is the chair...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Administrative Assistant** position open at Democratic consulting firm specializing in statewide races, public education campaigns. Experience communicating with the media, BA in political science/communications recommended. Spanish fluency a plus. Equal opportunity employer. Fax resume, cover letter, references to (310)394-1289...

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